

LORANGER NAMED 'MAN OF THE YEAR'

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OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE

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816-Home Tract OK'd by Planners

An 816-home tract proposed by the Milton Kauffman Construction Co., to be located between Sepulveda Blvd. and an extension of Carson St., west of Anza Ave., was recommended for approval Wednesday by the Planning Commission.

Part of a proposed \$20,000,000 development which will include 1541 homes, the tract will extend between Torrance Blvd. and Sepulveda Blvd. The land also includes a school site, for which the Torrance School Board began making plans.

Three and four bedroom homes are included in the plans. In other action, developer Harry Kissel told the commissioners that he had corrected the 14 objections previously voiced by the Planning Commission to his proposed development in southwest Torrance. The tract came under fire from the planners several months ago, when they voted not to accept the plans, until additional access roads were furnished, along with a park site, and several other changes. The tract will be discussed at a special Planning Commission meeting Wednesday.

Tract Gets OK
A 157-home development proposed by the Home Savings and Loan Assn., was approved by the commission. It is to be located between Madrona and Maple Aves., near Carson St.

Everett Powell's plans for a 24-home subdivision between Redondo Beach Blvd. and 164th St., west of the Roadlum Theater, got a tentative OK from the planners. Rejected last year because there was no access road to the tract, the condition has been corrected, Powell said.

Road Needed
Plans of the R. A. Watt Construction Co. for a 60-lot subdivision northeast of 186th and Casimir Aves., was sent to committee. City Engineer Ronald Bishop said he felt there should be an east-west road through the tract.

If sewers are provided, the plans of the Stanford Construction Co. for a 39-home tract near Yukon Ave. and Redondo Beach Blvd. were recommended for approval. Planners indicated they would ask St. Catherine's Church for permission to use a portion of its property to widen Ainsworth Ave.

Police Arrest Man Sought for Many Robberies

Armed robbery charges will be filed this week against a man who Detective Capt. Arnie Ashton said told him that he got "high on marijuana" to commit numerous burglaries and then buried his lot in glass jars.

Raymond Emerson Parker, 22, of 20320 Valerie St., was captured by Torrance Officers Jack Hahn and Bob Wright Thursday night shortly after a description of his car was broadcast in connection with a \$78 robbery at Welch's Liquor Store, 182nd and Hawthorne. The arrest was made near Torrance Blvd. and Valerie St.

Ashton said Parker admitted a number of other burglaries in this area, the most recent at the Roadlum Drive-In Theater on Feb. 27, when he obtained \$30 from the cashier.

The man had only a hazy recollection of the robberies, Ashton said, but admitted that he vaguely recalled quite a few. He told the police that he had \$3000 or \$4000 buried in glass jars between here and Long Beach.

Police accompanied him to a house where he said he had some money buried in a glass jar, but on arrival, the jar was found to be empty.

Parker reportedly told police that a partner, whom he refused to name must have taken the money.

Police said several robbery victims had identified Parker.

City Okays New Lease On Airport

Commercial development of the east end of the Torrance Municipal Airport moved a step closer Friday when the City Council voted to authorize execution of a 50-year leasing arrangement with Coldwell Banker & Co., prominent Southland commercial realtors.

At an adjourned meeting of the Council, City Attorney James M. Hall recommended that the lease, which had been prepared by him and counsel for the leasing firm, be approved by the Council.

Under the terms of the lease, the city will receive \$1,350,000 in ground rent over the next 50 years. Also to be received by the city are real estate and property taxes, and the sales tax which will be collected by the commercial establishments located on the lease.

An additional request by Coldwell-Banker for 20 acres of the airport property west of Crenshaw for parking was not granted by the Council, although an offer of approximately 10 acres, subject to the approval of CAA, will be made.

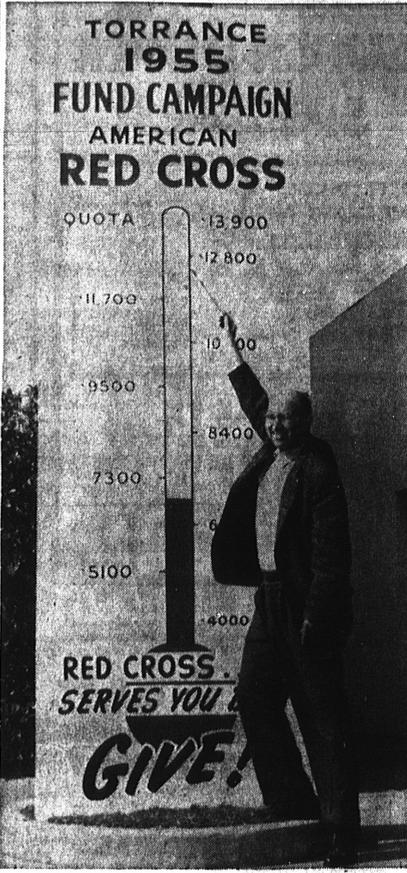
2nd Grade Super Mart Opens at Carr School

Students in Miss Doris Vinblad's and Mrs. Betty Holcomb's classes at Evelyn Carr School are now learning about how to run a store in the Second Grade Super Market which they have set up.

Studies in food handling, buying, advertising, and canning are being followed as a result of the store, which is complete with empty cans, boxes, and cartons.

Police Seek "Shadow"

An unknown caller told her to watch out for "The Shadow" Thursday night, Marion Kiss, of 4724 Highgrove Ave., told Torrance Police, who were unable to find the mysterious figure.



JUST TO HERE... That is all the farther the Red Cross thermometer had to go after the first day's campaign last Wednesday, according to Fund Chairman Albert Isen, shown here with the huge eye-catcher. About 61 per cent of the city's \$13,900 quota was collected on Blitz Day, and Isen hopes to mop up the balance this week.

Board OKs Polio Shots for Kids

A proposed polio immunization program for first and second graders was given an OK by the Torrance School Board Tuesday night.

Dr. Benjamin A. Kogan, of the local health office, told the board that the County Department of Health is making plans to give the shots to youngsters, if current tests of the serum prove successful.

Although the shots would be given through the schools, consent of parents would be required.

Whether the shots will be given depends on results of an evaluation of polio vaccine discovered by Dr. Jonas Salk, of the University of Pittsburgh. The evaluation is expected to be released soon after April 1.

Shots Stated
If the evaluation is favorable, the Los Angeles County Health Department plans to offer the shots to all first and second graders in public, private, and parochial schools, including those in Torrance.

Three inoculations are required, and tentative plans are being made to give the shots in this area starting April 18 if serum is available.

Forms Prepared
Forms for parents' consent are being supplied by the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis in anticipation of the shots. They are expected to be distributed about March 15. If the tests prove that the serum is valuable, then the immunization program will be ready to go on April 18.

School nurses and doctors have been asked to participate in the program.

Educators Kin Hired As Teachers
The widow of the late Principal Donald Robison and a daughter of a late school board member, Carl Steele, have been hired by the Torrance School Board as teachers for 1955-56.

Mrs. Alice Robison and Mrs. Maxine Steele Jensen will be elementary teachers next year. Mrs. Robison's husband was a principal of Evelyn Carr Elementary School before his death last fall. Mrs. Jensen's father was one of the first members of the Torrance Board of Education.

Also hired for next year was Beverly Hastings Dyson, elementary teacher. The board also approved the return of E. Louise Kilburn and James Richard Downing after leaves of absence.

The resignation of Lucile Kutterer Hardcastle and Patricia Keefe Carbe were accepted.

Need for Retail Growth Revealed

Torrance merchants are not getting their share of the retail business in this area, Paul Loranger said last week following his installation to serve a second term as president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

"Retail sales per capita have shown a decrease since 1949," Loranger told the 250 persons attending the annual installation dinner. "I regret to report that in 1954 the trend continued downward and retail sales per person are now approximately 65 per cent less than in 1949—with business generally increasing," he stated.

In reviewing the progress made by the city during the past year, the Chamber president pointed out the inclusion of representatives from all parts of Torrance on the Chamber board of directors, and the sound move in the unification of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, the installation of parking meters, and the successful completion of the hospital fund campaign, and the leadership of former Chamber President Henry W. Creeger.

Unification Started
Inclusion of representatives of the several community areas of Torrance on the Chamber board of directors was hailed by President Loranger as a sound move in the unification of Torrance. He referred to the areas as north Torrance, southeast Torrance, south Torrance, central Torrance, and west Torrance, a procedure adopted early this year by the Torrance HERALD.

He charged the Junior Chamber of Commerce with the challenge to continue a campaign they started several years ago to clean up the business streets of Torrance and to beautify the entrances to the city. "And keep them clean and beautiful," he said. "It's a challenge that you can take in your stride."

Issues Supported
In meeting the needs for increasing school and hospital facilities, Loranger said the Chamber of Commerce has and will continue to support the programs. He reminded those at the annual meeting that the Chamber had endorsed and helped pass the school bond issue last year, and that it had furnished much of the leadership for the hospital fund raising campaign.

He lauded the recent reorganization of the merchants division of the Chamber of Commerce which is being designed to raise additional funds for promotional and other activities to stimulate business. Cooperation Pledged
"This is certainly a step in the right direction and I not

only offer my personal congratulations, but pledge my cooperation," Loranger said. "The value of industrial growth was emphasized by the president when he reported that 100 new factory workers require 74 more people to serve them, and \$300,000 more retail business—to say nothing of the taxes the manufacturers and their employees contribute to the community."

"We do not expect to accomplish all objectives in a single year," Loranger said. "But we expect to make progress each day." He stressed that the answers to the city's problems are not one big blazing action, but many little actions, fought on many different fronts, "usually by unsung people who believe like giants."

Theme Repeated
Loranger concluded his remarks by repeating the theme he laid down for the Chamber of Commerce last year. He said it would be the theme again for 1955:

"To be a good citizen and to actively serve the community in which we live... paying taxes is not enough. Business concerns as well as individuals have an obligation to aid in the civic and cultural development of the area they serve as well as to participate in its economic life."

Man of Year
Following Loranger's address, Mervin M. Schwab, Torrance's "Man of the Year" for 1954, presented Russell Lund, author of the nomination for the new "Man of the Year" award which went to Loranger. The huge perpetual trophy, put up last year by Mrs. William Laughton and Mrs. Grover C. Whyte, was then presented to Loranger by Schwab, who was named "Man of the Year" as the first winner.

Municipal Judge Otto B. Willett served as master of ceremonies for the evening while Judge John A. Shidler presided over installation ceremonies.

Those attending the dinner meeting were served a chuckwagon dinner which included ham and roast beef, and were entertained by two bands and a talented young organist during the evening.

Miss Irwin has worked for the police for 20 years.

Ex-Cop, Police Phone Operator In Dope Arrest

A retired Los Angeles police lieutenant now living in Torrance and a San Pedro police telephone operator were picked up by sheriff's deputies early Saturday when "enough opium to last 100 years" was found in her home.

Thomas H. Rankin, 56, of 2001 W. 164th St., and Miss Ebba J. Irwin, 43, were picked up in her San Pedro apartment.

Raiding officers said they found 140 ounces of raw opium divided into 20 cans sealed with adhesive tape. The narcotics were valued at about \$100,000.

Found by Red
The opium was found beside a bed on which Rankin was lying, and he admitted that it belonged to him. The former narcotics squad officer said he had been using dope for several years.

Rankin and Miss Irwin both denied that she used dope. He said he got the opium Friday after a dope runner had brought it in from Mexico and hidden it.

The narcotics were for his own use, Rankin said, but Capt. K. E. Irving, of the sheriff's office, took a dim view of this statement.



(Herald Photo)
STAR PERFORMERS... Two of the top personalities of the annual Chamber of Commerce installation banquet last week talk it over after the dinner meeting. With his trophies presented to him as "Man of the Year" is Paul Loranger. Seated at the organ on which he entertained at the meeting is John Ledwon.

Winner Given Huge Ovation

Paul Loranger, owner of Paul's Chevrolet and president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce for a second term, was named "Man of the Year" at the annual Chamber of Commerce banquet here last Thursday evening.

Described as one of the Chamber's outstanding leaders, Loranger was selected by a panel of judges to receive the beautiful Laughon-Whyte trophy which was first presented last year.

In nominating Loranger to receive the trophy, Russell H. Lund referred to the Chamber of Commerce President's accomplishments during the year in bringing recognition to the city in a number of ways. He also cited Loranger's frequent attendance at meetings throughout the Southland where he represented Torrance in discussions and in various programs.

Nomination Read
Lund was introduced by Mervin M. Schwab, winner last year of the trophy. Lund read his letter of nomination. Following his introduction as "Man of the Year," Loranger received a standing ovation from the more than 300 in attendance at the dinner.

The trophy was put up last year by Mrs. William Laughton and Mrs. Grover C. Whyte as a memorial to their late husbands who were identified for many years with Torrance.

Names of the winners are placed on the huge perpetual trophy each year and a plaque is given to the winner to keep.

Burglar Cracks Safe, Escapes With \$300 Loot

A safe-cracker who was apparently caught in the act, made off with \$300 in cash from the Public Loan Co., 1607 Cravens Ave., sometime early Friday morning, Torrance police reported.

The burglary was reported by Robert Holmstedt, of 1407 Beach Ave., who arrived about 5 a.m. to clean up the office. He found that the burglar had apparently wheeled the safe from the front office into the back office, covered the window with dark blotters, and a manager to crack the combination of the safe.

Did "Clean" Job
Detective Capt. Ernie Ashton said the safe man had done "one of the cleanest jobs I ever saw" in opening the two doors on the safe.

Finding the office burglarized, Holmstedt and a companion tried the back door, found it unlocked, and ran to the police station a block away, and got officers.

When they returned, they found the back door locked. Police theorized that the intruder had heard Holmstedt coming, hidden in the rest room, and escaped while Holmstedt was at the police station.

Thief Used Gloves
No fingerprints were available, since left apparently from gloves, was found on the safe and on Scotch tape used to put the desk blotters over the windows.

Since both front and rear doors are sealed with double locks, police felt the intruder must have had a key.

The thief missed a considerable amount of money in the safe, however, and police felt he may have been surprised in the act.

Teacher Turns Tables, Bakes Cake for Girls

Turnabout was fair play last week as William Forrest, Madrona Ave. School eighth grade teacher, baked blueberry hot cakes for the girls in his class.

The girls travel twice a week to Evelyn Carr School for home economics class, under the direction of Mrs. Anne Bailey. Forrest has been a regular taster of the girls' wares.

City to Get Waste Land For Park Use

An agreement by which the city would get park land in northwest Torrance for \$1 per acre was studied by the Torrance Planning Commission, Wednesday night.

Under terms of a 1949 agreement with H. M. Guenser, the city is to get land along 178th St. to develop as a park after Guenser's brick firm completes its diggings for clay in the area.

The city plans to fill the land by using it as a temporary dump, and later developing it into a park. The land will revert to the city, acre by acre, as the brick firm finishes its diggings. The digging is expected to be completed by 1959.

History Films Shown

Films on "The Story of Christopher Columbus" and "The Lewis and Clark Expedition" are being shown to all eighth grade students in the Torrance School District, in cooperation with the Jaycees, the Torrance School Board was told Tuesday night.